

REMARKS

At the outset, applicant and his attorneys wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of the recent interview. The Examiner's careful attention to the application and many helpful suggestions on that occasion are greatly appreciated.

At the interview, it was agreed that amendments to the specification and claims would be made. These are made herewith in what is believed to be exactly the way worked out at the interview. Thus, the specification is amended at pages 6 and 11 to give antecedent basis to claim 24. New claim 41 is added but needs no corresponding change in the specification, because basis therefor is already provided at page 7, lines 3-6 of the specification.

As was pointed out at the interview, a basic feature of the present invention is that the base layer is of plasterboard. Plasterboard is brittle and is not inherently strong. The production of a sandwich from the plasterboard layer 1 and the heat insulating layer 2, produces a new reinforcing sandwich effect as pointed out at the middle of page 8 of our specification. This problem does not arise in materials such as those of INGRAM U.S. Patent 5,497,826, in which the panel is of plywood, chipboard or fiberboard or of wood shavings bonded together by a resin (column 7, lines 2-6), in which the brittleness of plasterboard is not to be found.

Another very important feature of the present invention, is that it makes possible for the first time, the manufacture and purchase of radiating panels in a standard size. The purchaser need thus only purchase and store a standard size of radiating panel, because the panel can be adapted at the worksite to provide the proper size. This is because there is a repeating plurality of hydraulic circuits per panel. Thus, the panel can be used as a whole, but it can be used in a smaller size, depending on the available space and the heating load to be provided. It should be noted that nowhere in the prior art, is there the teaching of a radiating panel in which a single panel comprises more than one single independent hydraulic circuit arranged as in the present invention.

Reconsideration is accordingly respectfully requested, for the rejection of the claims as anticipated by or unpatentable over INGRAM U.S. Patent 5,497,826. INGRAM provides a panel of plywood or the like (column 7, lines 3-6) with, in the Fig. 4 embodiment, a thin sheet of aluminum foil which is certainly not an insulator, and only a single heating circuit. INGRAM teaches various arrangements of these fluid circuits, as in Figs. 11 and 13, but never the arrangement of the present invention, much less with plural circuits in a single panel. Thus, INGRAM lacks a plurality of important features of the present invention, all of which are believed now clearly recited in the claims as amended.

In view of the recent interview and the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, therefore, it is believed that this application has been placed in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Of course, if any point still needs attention, the Examiner has only to call the undersigned, and whatever is needed will be done at once.

Charge the fee of \$18 for the one claim of any type added herewith to Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Robert J. Patch, Reg. No. 17,355
Attorney for Applicant
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

RJP/fb